

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data sharing system having at least display screen data shared between at least one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least one receiving terminal apparatus connected via a network;

wherein said transmitting terminal apparatus comprises:

transfer rate setting means for setting a transfer rate based on how fast said display screen data were transferred previously to said receiving terminal apparatus;

communication performance measuring means for measuring communication performance parameters representative of network communication performance between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus;

evaluating means for calculating evaluation parameters for evaluating network communication status using at least said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters; and

interlocking process controlling means for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus by use of said evaluation parameters;

wherein said receiving terminal apparatus comprises:

screen receiving means for receiving said display screen data transferred from said transmitting terminal apparatus; and

communication performance measurement responding means for responding to a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for measuring said communication performance parameters; and

wherein said receiving terminal apparatus is controlled by a signal coming from said interlocking process controlling means.

2. A transmitting terminal apparatus for transmitting at least screen display data to at least one receiving terminal apparatus connected via a network, said transmitting terminal apparatus comprising:

transfer rate setting means for setting a transfer rate based on how fast said display screen data were transferred previously to said receiving terminal apparatus;

communication performance measuring means for measuring communication performance parameters representative of network communication performance between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said

receiving terminal apparatus;

evaluating means for calculating evaluation parameters for evaluating network communication status using at least said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters; and

interlocking process controlling means for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus by use of said evaluation parameters.

3. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising transfer rate determining means for calculating a predicted completion time of a data transfer based on a predetermined transfer rate, said transfer rate determining means further determining whether said data transfer is completed within said predicted completion time;

wherein said transfer rate setting means changes said transfer rate if at least a predetermined number of results of the determination by said transfer rate determining means are consecutively equal.

4. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said communication performance parameters include at least one of two factors consisting of a delay time and a packet loss rate detected during

signal exchanges between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus.

5. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said evaluating means calculates said evaluation parameters based on values obtained by weighting previous values of said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters, and the most recent values of said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters.

6. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, if there exist a plurality of values of said evaluation parameters, said interlocking process controlling means controls said interlocking process using values obtained by weighting said plurality of values of said evaluation parameters in keeping with different types of said interlocking process.

7. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said interlocking process controlling means either enables or disables interlocking functionality depending on different types of said interlocking process.

8. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said interlocking process concerns at least one of three operations consisting of a remote

operation, a chat, and a file transfer;

wherein said remote operation is a process in which one of said transmitting and said receiving terminal apparatuses remotely operates another terminal apparatus;

wherein said chat is a process carried out between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus; and

wherein said file transfer is a process effected between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus.

9. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising displaying means for displaying communication status information about said network by use of said evaluation parameters.

10. A transmitting terminal apparatus according to claim 9, wherein, if there exist a plurality of values of said evaluation parameters, said displaying means displays said communication status information using values obtained by weighting said plurality of values of said evaluation parameters for display purposes.

11. A recording medium which stores a program in a manner readable by a computer of a transmitting terminal apparatus for transmitting at least screen display data to at least one receiving terminal apparatus connected

via a network, said program causing said computer of said transmitting terminal apparatus to implement:

transfer rate setting means for setting a transfer rate based on how fast said display screen data were transferred previously to said receiving terminal apparatus;

communication performance measuring means for measuring communication performance parameters representative of network communication performance between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus;

evaluating means for calculating evaluation parameters for evaluating network communication status using at least said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters; and

interlocking process controlling means for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus by use of said evaluation parameters.

12. A receiving terminal apparatus for sharing screen display data with at least one transmitting terminal apparatus connected via a network, said receiving terminal apparatus comprising:

screen receiving means for receiving said display

screen data transferred from said transmitting terminal apparatus; and

communication performance measurement responding means for responding to a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for measuring communication performance parameters;

wherein said receiving terminal apparatus is controlled by a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus.

13. A receiving terminal apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said interlocking process concerns at least one of three operations consisting of a remote operation, a chat, and a file transfer;

wherein said remote operation is a process in which one of said transmitting and said receiving terminal apparatuses remotely operates another terminal apparatus;

wherein said chat is a process carried out between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus; and

wherein said file transfer is a process effected between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus.

14. A receiving terminal apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising displaying means for displaying communication status information about said network by use of evaluation parameters calculated by said transmitting terminal apparatus for evaluating network communication status based on said communication performance parameters.

15. A recording medium which stores a program in a manner readable by a computer of a receiving terminal apparatus for sharing display screen data with at least one transmitting terminal apparatus connected via a network, said program causing said computer of said receiving terminal apparatus to implement:

screen receiving means for receiving said display screen data transferred from said transmitting terminal apparatus; and

communication performance measurement responding means for responding to a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for measuring communication performance parameters;

wherein said receiving terminal apparatus is controlled by a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and



said receiving terminal apparatus.

16. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method for use by a transmitting terminal apparatus in a data sharing system having at least display screen data shared between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least one receiving terminal apparatus connected via a network, said transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method comprising the steps of:

    setting a transfer rate based on how fast said display screen data were transferred previously to said receiving terminal apparatus;

    measuring communication performance parameters representative of network communication performance between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus;

    calculating evaluation parameters for evaluating network communication status using at least said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters; and

    controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus by use of said evaluation parameters.

17. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of calculating a predicted completion time of a data

transfer based on a predetermined transfer rate, before determining whether said data transfer is completed within said predicted completion time;

wherein said transfer rate setting step changes said transfer rate if at least a predetermined number of results of the determination in said transfer rate determining step are consecutively equal.

18. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, wherein said communication performance parameters include at least one of two factors consisting of a delay time and a packet loss rate detected during signal exchanges between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus.

19. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, wherein said evaluating parameter calculating step calculates said evaluation parameters based on values obtained by weighting previous values of said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters, and the most recent values of said transfer rate and said communication performance parameters.

20. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, wherein, if there exist a

plurality of values of said evaluation parameters, said interlocking process controlling step controls said interlocking process using values obtained by weighting said plurality of values of said evaluation parameters in keeping with different types of said interlocking process.

21. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, wherein said interlocking process controlling step either enables or disables interlocking functionality depending on different types of said interlocking process.

22. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, wherein said interlocking process concerns at least one of three operations consisting of a remote operation, a chat, and a file transfer;

wherein said remote operation is a process in which one of said transmitting and said receiving terminal apparatuses remotely operates another terminal apparatus;

wherein said chat is a process carried out between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus; and

wherein said file transfer is a process effected between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus.

23. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of displaying communication status information about said network by use of said evaluation parameters.

24. A transmitting terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 23, wherein, if there exist a plurality of values of said evaluation parameters, said displaying step displays said communication status information about said network using values obtained by weighting said plurality of values of said evaluation parameters for display purposes.

25. A receiving terminal apparatus controlling method for use by a receiving terminal apparatus for sharing screen display data with at least one transmitting terminal apparatus connected via a network, said receiving terminal apparatus controlling method comprising the steps of:

receiving said display screen data transferred from said transmitting terminal apparatus;

responding to a signal transmitted by said transmitting terminal apparatus for measuring communication performance parameters; and

causing said receiving terminal apparatus to be controlled by a signal transmitted by said transmitting

terminal apparatus for controlling an interlocking process between said transmitting terminal apparatus and said receiving terminal apparatus.

26. A receiving terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 25, wherein said interlocking process concerns at least one of three operations consisting of a remote operation, a chat, and a file transfer;

wherein said remote operation is a process in which one of said transmitting and said receiving terminal apparatuses remotely operates another terminal apparatus;

wherein said chat is a process carried out between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus; and

wherein said file transfer is a process effected between at least said one transmitting terminal apparatus and at least said one receiving terminal apparatus.

27. A receiving terminal apparatus controlling method according to claim 25, further comprising the step of displaying communication status information about said network by use of evaluation parameters calculated by said transmitting terminal apparatus for evaluating network communication status based on said communication performance parameters.